

REMARKS

This timely responds the Final Office Action mailed on August 11, 2004. Claims 1-14 and 16-22 are currently pending in the application, of which claims 1, 11, 20, 21 and 22 are independent claims.

In view of the following Remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and timely withdrawal of the pending rejections for the reasons discussed below.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-7, 10-14, 16 and 18-22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Japanese Patent Publication No. 8-294030 by Wakabayashi, *et al.* (“Wakabayashi”) in view of U. S. Patent No. 6,099,336 issued to Harris, *et al.* (“Harris”). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection for at least the following reasons.

With respect to claims 1-7, 10, 18 and 19, independent claim 1 recites “a control unit which prevents the combination unit from combining the digital electronic signal with the electronic signal when the specific phone number of the remote device coincides with the phone number stored in the storage unit”.

In this regard, the Examiner stated “Wakabayashi further teaches that when the portable telephone with the integrated video camera is used as a handset-type telephone set (when the specific phone number of the remote device coincides with the phone number designated by the designating unit) (see Figs. 5, 6 and 7), power of the camera section is automatically cut off (page 8, para. 0017) (there is no digital electronic signal outputted from the camera section)” (Office Action, page 2).

On this basis, the Examiner asserted “the broadest interpretation of the present claimed invention does in fact read on the cited references for at least the reasons discussed above ...”. This assertion is respectfully disagreed with.

Wakabayashi shows a camera phone having the camera case 5 and the speaker 21 arranged on two adjoining sides of the camera head 20. As shown in Figs. 5, 6 and 7, when the camera phone is used as a normal cellular phone, the camera case 5 is rotated and the speaker 21 is arranged on the front side. Also, when the camera case 5 is rotated, the camera head 20 is hidden inside the main part 2 and power supply to the camera head 20 is automatically cut off in order to conserve power (e.g., battery). After all, there is no point of supplying power to the camera head 20 while the camera 20 is hidden and cannot take any picture.

Applicants agree with the Examiner that a claim should be examined with the broadest interpretation. However, cutting off the power supply has nothing to do with preventing “*the combination unit from combining the digital electronic signal with the electronic signal when the specific phone number of the remote device coincides with the phone number stored in the storage unit*”, as claimed.

Wakabayashi does not disclose or even remotely suggest that the power supply to the camera head 20 is cut off when the phone number of a remote device coincides with a phone number stored in the storage unit. Rather, the power supply is automatically cut off in order to conserve power while the camera head 20 is hidden in the main part 2.

It is submitted that Wakabayashi fails to disclose or suggest preventing “*the combination unit from combining the digital electronic signal with the electronic signal when the specific phone number of the remote device coincides with the phone number stored in the storage unit*”, as claimed.

As previously mentioned, Harris discloses a wireless handset unit that is capable of a video conference, but does not disclose or suggest preventing “the combination unit from combining the digital electronic signal with the electronic signal *when the specific phone number of the remote device coincides with the phone number stored in the storage unit*”, as claimed.

Since none of the cited references discloses or suggests this claimed feature, it is submitted that claim 1 is patentable over them. Claims 2-7, 10, 18 and 19 that are dependent from claim 1 would be also patentable at least for the same reasons.

With respect to claims 11-14, independent claim 11 recites “a control unit which prevents the combination unit from combining the digital electronic signal with the electric signal *when the specific phone number of the remote device coincides with the phone number stored in the storage unit*”. As previously mentioned, none of the cited references discloses or suggests this claimed feature. Thus, it is submitted that claim 11 is patentable over them. Claims 12-14 that are dependent from claim 11 would be also patentable at least for the same reasons.

Independent claim 20 recites “a control unit which prevents the selecting unit from selecting the digital electronic signal when the telephone number designating the remote device coincides with the specific telephone number”.

As previously mentioned, none of the cited references discloses or suggests this claimed feature. The Examiner merely stated that this claimed feature is shown in Figs. 5 to 7 of Wakabayashi but the Examiner has not specifically pointed out which part in Wakabayashi discloses or suggests this claimed feature. Thus, it is submitted that claim 20 is patentable over them.

Independent claim 21 recites “a first control unit which allows or prevents the combination unit from combining the digital electronic signal with the electronic signal when the

specific phone number of the remote device coincides with the phone number stored in the storage unit”.

As previously mentioned, none of the cited references discloses or suggests this claimed feature. The Examiner merely stated that this claimed feature is shown in Figs. 1 to 7 of Wakabayashi but the Examiner has not specifically pointed out which part in Wakabayashi discloses or suggests this claimed feature. Thus, it is submitted that claim 21 is patentable over them.

Independent claim 22 recites “a control unit which allows the transmission of the electromagnetic signal containing the still image when the telephone number designating the remote device coincides with the specific telephone number in the memory”.

As previously mentioned, none of the cited references discloses or suggests this claimed feature. This is further evidenced by the fact that, in the Office Action, the Examiner has not pointed out which part of Wakabayashi discloses or suggests this claimed feature. Thus, it is submitted that claim 22 is patentable over them.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection of claims 1-7, 10-14, 16 and 18-22.

Claims 8 and 9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Wakabayashi in view of Harris and further in view of U. S. Patent No. 5,510,829 issued to Sugiyama, et al. (“Sugiyama”). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 8 and 9 are dependent from claim 1. As previously mentioned, claim 1 is believed to be patentable over Wakabayashi and Harris. For Example, Wakabayashi and Harris do not disclose or suggest preventing “the combination unit from combining the digital electronic signal

with the electronic signal *when the specific phone number of the remote device coincides with the phone number stored in the storage unit*", as claimed.

As previously mentioned, Sugiyama is directed to a voice/video communication device but does not disclose or suggest preventing "the combination unit from combining the digital electronic signal with the electronic signal *when the specific phone number of the remote device coincides with the phone number stored in the storage unit*", as claimed. Since none of the cited references discloses or suggests this claimed feature, it is submitted that claim 1 is patentable over Wakabayashi, Harris and Sugiyama. Claims 8 and 9 that are dependent from claim 1 would be also patentable at least for the same reasons.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection of claims 8 and 9.

Claim 17 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Wakabayashi in view of Harris and further in view of U. S. Patent No. 5,491,507 issued to Umezawa, et al. ("Umezawa"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 17 is dependent from claim 1. As previously mentioned, claim 1 is believed to be patentable over Wakabayashi and Harris. For Example, Wakabayashi and Harris do not disclose or suggest preventing "the combination unit from combining the digital electronic signal with the electronic signal *when the specific phone number of the remote device coincides with the phone number stored in the storage unit*", as claimed.

As previously mentioned, Umezawa discloses a video phone handset that allows transmitting pictures and voices but does not disclose or suggest preventing "the combination unit from combining the digital electronic signal with the electronic signal *when the specific*

phone number of the remote device coincides with the phone number stored in the storage unit",
as claimed. Since none of the cited references discloses or suggests this claimed feature, it is
submitted that claim 1 is patentable over Wakabayashi, Harris and Umezawa. Claim 17 is
dependent from claim 1 and would be also patentable at least for the same reasons.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)
rejection of claim 17.

CONCLUSION

Applicants believe that a full and complete response has been made to the pending Office Action and respectfully submits that all of the stated grounds for rejection have been overcome or rendered moot. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that all pending claims are allowable and that the application is in condition for allowance.

Should the Examiner feel that there are any issues outstanding after consideration of this response, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicants' undersigned representative at the number below to expedite prosecution.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Reply is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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Date: November 12, 2004

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